

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office action sent on July 22, 2004, in which the Examiner indicated that certain matters had not yet been fully responded to. The applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance in pointing out these matters, originally referenced in paragraphs 2-6 and 13 of the Office action dated July 8, 2003. These matters involve the oath or declaration; indication of prior art in the drawings; a replacement title for the specification that is clearly indicative of the invention; correction of certain informalities in the specification; and amendment of claims 12 and 13 to adhere to the limitations previously indicated by the Examiner to be in condition for allowance.

As for the oath or declaration, the Examiner indicated in the action dated July 22, 2004 that the oath or declaration is defective because it refers to a "sole inventor", while there are multiple inventors. However, as the applicant and the Examiner agreed in a telephone interview on July 30, 2004, all original and first inventors were correctly listed in the oath or declaration. It was also acknowledged that the current 37 C.F.R. 1.63(a)(4) no longer requires for the oath or declaration to refer to the sole or joint inventorship of the inventor(s), requiring instead only that the inventor(s) state that they are the original and first inventor(s). The applicant is appreciative of the Examiner's agreement that the oath or declaration is therefore in conformity with the patent regulations of 37 C.F.R. §1.63.

As for rewriting claims 12 and 13 to conform to all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims to fulfill the Examiner's indication of allowability, the applicant has amended claims 12 and 13 to include the last limitation of claims 11 and 10 respectively, according to the Examiner's guidance. As for the amendment of the preamble in each of claims

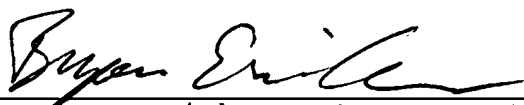
12 and 13 to refer to a "slider" instead of a "disc head slider", the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner examine and allow claims 12 and 13 to include this amendment, as a slight change from the precise wording of the original subject matter the Examiner referred to in the original indication of allowability.

The applicant believes the amendments to the title, figures, and specification, as contained herein, are also fully responsive to the indications of the Office action dated July 22, 2004. The applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner find accordingly and, considering this response and the one dated October 8, 2003, allow pending claims 1, 9-14, 45 and 46.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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